

REMARKS

The election/restriction requirement dated September 21, 2005 holds that this application contains claims directed to five patentably distinct species. More specifically, Applicants are required to elect one of the following patentably distinct groups/species for prosecution on the merits under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Species I - described in the specification on pages 7-19, sections [0056]-[00122];

Species II - described in the specification on pages 19-21, sections [00123]-
[00132];

Species III - described in the specification on pages 21-23, sections [00133]-
[00143];

Species IV - described in the specification on pages 23-24, sections [00144]-
[00150]; and

Species V - described in the specification on pages 24-27, sections [00151]-
[00163].

Additionally, the Office Action indicates that there is no generic claim.

In response, Applicants hereby elect the Species I *without* traverse. Applicant believes that claims 1-9 and 14-33 read on this embodiment. Further, Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1 and 17 are generic to all embodiments.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request examination of claims 1-9 and 14-33 because they read on the elected species. Claims 10-13 are believed to be directed to non-elected embodiments. Thus, these claims can be withdrawn from consideration in this case. However, Applicants respectfully request that these non-elected claims be considered upon the allowance of a generic claim in accordance with U.S. patent practice.

Appl. No. 10/791,282
Amendment dated October 18, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 21, 2005

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Prompt examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Todd M. Guise
Reg. No. 46,748

SHINJYU GLOBAL IP COUNSELORS, LLP
1233 Twentieth Street, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036
(202)-293-0444
Dated: 10/18/05

G:\10-Oct05-NAT\SE-US35160 Restriction